1. PURPOSE. The Pennsylvania Vision Conservation Institute (VCI) will present annually a $1,000 award and plaque to a deserving fourth-year student from Pennsylvania attending the Pennsylvania College of Optometry (PCO) at Salus University in recognition of outstanding service to PCO, the visual welfare of the public and the community. The award is named after the late Donald H. Evans, O.D., a longtime member and executive director of the Pennsylvania Optometric Association. Dr. Evans was highly committed to organized optometry and the visual welfare of the public, with a special interest in legislative issues.

2. CRITERIA. Applicants must be residents of Pennsylvania and will be evaluated according to a point system in three principal areas:

   Service to PCO and Optometry (40 points)
   Leadership/membership roles in clubs, societies or associations (include any special committees, assignments or project teams); major accomplishments; initiation/implementation of unique programs.

   Service to the Visual Welfare of the Public (35 points)
   Service to sight saving groups; legislative activities beneficial to the visual welfare of the public; participation in government health care programs; participation in public service programs such as visual screening projects, etc.

   Service to the Community (25 points)
   Public service to benefit your community, including political service; public health or military service; work in education; leadership in community issues; participation in charitable causes and institutions; community and religious service. These efforts need not be limited to those that are eye care or vision care related.

3. APPLICANT’S STATEMENT. Your Applicant’s Statement must include the following information:

   • Name (as you would like it to appear on a plaque)
   • Address
   • Email Address
   • Year of Graduation
   • Resident of Pennsylvania (Yes/No)
   • Substantiating material detailing your accomplishments according to each principal area of the award’s Criteria. Please describe any key accomplishments or special initiatives that can be attributed to you.

   If you are unsure about how to categorize an accomplishment, you may list it under more than one area. Supplements may be attached to the Applicant’s Statement; however, these are not a substitute for the content of the Applicant’s Statement. Five to six hundred words is generally adequate; the Applicant’s Statement should not exceed 2,000 words.

4. DEADLINE. Applications must be received by the Vision Conservation Institute by March 1.

5. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS. Applications must be submitted directly to the Vision Conservation Institute:

   Via email: Kelsey@poaeyes.org
   Via mail: Vision Conservation Institute, 218 North Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101
   Via fax: (717) 233-6833

6. PRESENTATION OF AWARD. The award will be announced and presented during PCO’s awards ceremonies.

The Pennsylvania Vision Conservation Institute serves as the public information arm of the Pennsylvania Optometric Association. VCI also educates the citizens of Pennsylvania about eye care and the role doctors of optometry play as primary eye care providers; provides optometric scholarships and supports vision and vision care research projects.

If you have questions, please contact the VCI office at Kelsey@poaeyes.org or (717) 233-0925.